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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 ROME 000409

SIPDIS

STATE FOR A/S PRM DEWEY, IO A/S HOLMES, EUR/NE, EUR/WE,

STATE PASS TO USDA FAS
SA/INS, IO/EDA WINNICK
USDA/FAS FOR U/S PENN, MCHAMBLISS AND RTILSWORTH
USAID FOR ADMINISTRATOR NATSIOS, AA/DCHA WINTER
D/DCHA/OFDA BMCCONNELL, D/DCHA/FFP LANDIS
JOINT STAFF FOR J3/J4/J5
GENEVA FOR RMA
BRUSSELS FOR USEU
NSC FOR JDWORKEN
USUN FOR AMBASSADOR NEGROPONTE AND MLUTZ

E.O. 12958: DNG: CO 02/03/2012

TAGS: AORC EAGR EAID ECON KUNR PREF AID WFP

SUBJECT: USAID/DCHA TEAM DISCUSSES POSSIBLE IRAQ
HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE WITH FAO - JANUARY 24, 2003
MEETING IN ROME

REF: (A) ROME 00371 (B) 02 ROME 6133 (C) 02 ROME 6072

CLASSIFIED BY: CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR TONY P. HALL FOR REASONS 1.5 (B)
) AND (D).

SUMMARY

¶1. USAID/DAA/DCHA BILL GARVELINK AND D/FFP LAUREN LANDIS VISITED FAO ROME HEADQUARTERS ON JANUARY 24 TO REVIEW FAO'S SIZABLE OIL-FOR-FOOD (OFF)-FINANCED OPERATIONS IN IRAQ - AND ITS CAPABILITY TO DEVELOP AN AGRICULTURE-RELATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE MECHANISM FOR IRAQ IN THE EVENT OF OUTBREAK OF CONFLICT. FAO STRESSED THAT ANY SUCCESSFUL POST-CONFLICT HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION MUST BE FOCUSED ON URGENT REVIVAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. FAO CURRENTLY HAS A TOTAL OF 72 INTERNATIONAL AND 600 NATIONAL STAFF WORKING WITHIN IRAQ. PARTICULARLY IN THE THREE NORTHERN GOVERNORATES, WHERE FAO SPENDS SOME U.S. DOLLARS 70 MILLION/ANNUM AND IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGION'S AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, IT IS CLEAR THAT FAO WILL BE A KEY PLAYER IN AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION. IN US MISSION'S VIEW, IT IS URGENT THAT FAO CONTINUE TO BE STRONGLY FACTORED INTO THE IRAQ HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE OPERATIONAL DIALOGUE. END SUMMARY.

BACKGROUND

¶2. USAID/DAA/DCHA BILL GARVELINK AND D/FFP LAUREN LANDIS VISITED FAO ROME ON JANUARY 24 TO REVIEW FAO'S SIZABLE OIL-FOR-FOOD (OFF)-FINANCED OPERATIONS IN IRAQ AND ITS CAPABILITY TO DEVELOP AN AGRICULTURE-RELATED HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE MECHANISM OR IRAQ IN THE EVENT OF OUTBREAK OF CONFLICT. PRINCIPAL INTERLOCUTORS FROM FAO INCLUDED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL HENRI CARSLADE; ANNE BAUER, DIRECTOR, SPECIAL RELIEF OPERATIONS SERVICE (TCOR); SENIOR TCOR OPERATIONS OFFICER, LAURENT THOMAS; AND IRAQ TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS RODRIQUE VINET AND FRANCESCO DEL RE.

¶3. SINCE 1997, APPROXIMATELY U.S. DOLLARS 800 MILLION WORTH OF AGRICULTURE INPUTS AND EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN IMPORTED INTO IRAQ EVERY YEAR UNDER THE OFF PROGRAM TO SUPPORT LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION. OF THIS AMOUNT, APPROXIMATELY U.S. DOLLARS 730 MILLION/ANNUM ARE SPENT IN THE CENTER/SOUTH WHERE THE PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED DIRECTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ (GOI) AND U.S. DOLLARS 70 MILLION/ANNUM IN THE NORTH WHERE FAO IS FULLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVISION OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS AND REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF THE GOI.

¶4. FAO CURRENTLY HAS A TOTAL OF 72 INTERNATIONAL AND 600 NATIONAL STAFF WORKING IN IRAQ AS FOLLOWS: 19 INTERNATIONAL AND 116 NATIONAL STAFF IN THE CENTER/SOUTH REGION AND 53 INTERNATIONAL AND 484 NATIONAL STAFF IN THE THREE NORTHERN GOVERNORATES.

¶5. IN THE NORTHERN GOVERNORATES OF DOHK, IRBIL AND SULEIMANIYAH, WHERE THE GOI WITHDREW ITS PUBLIC SERVICES IN 1991, FAO ACTIVITIES TARGET A WIDE RANGE OF AGRICULTURAL SUB-SECTORS, INCLUDING WATER RESOURCES AND IRRIGATION, PLANT PROTECTION AND PRODUCTION, FORESTRY AND EROSION CONTROL, MECHANIZATION, AGRO-INDUSTRY, ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH, ETC. NOTE: CEREAL YIELDS IN NORTHERN IRAQ REACHED 600,000 MTS IN 2002, THE HIGHEST IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS. THE RATE OF POULTRY PRODUCTION IN THE NORTH NOW STANDS AT 39,900 MTS OF POULTRY MEAT/ANNUM AND 375 MILLION EGGS/ANNUM. END NOTE.

ACTION AS-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CIAE-00	CTME-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00
	EXME-00	EUR-00	E-00	VC-00	FRB-00	TEDE-00	INR-00
	IO-00	ITC-01	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00
	P-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	DRL-01	G-00	SAS-00		/008W

P 031147Z FEB 03
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7962
INFO EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY
USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY 3095
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK